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ABSTRACT

Imi Na Auao is an independent research program for high school students who demonstrate giftedness and intense interest in the study of Hawaiian culture. The primary objective of Imi Na Auao is to produce students who can use investigative skills and appropriate resources to organize research materials and find an appropriate outlet for a finished product on a Hawaiian topic of interest. This paper describes the target group, the identification/selection process, the instructional delivery plan, evaluation plan, and student successes. Application procedures, evaluation criteria, a nomination form, and an assignment sheet concerning the writing of an autobiography are appended. (JDD)

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'IMI NA'AUAO

TO SEEK KNOWLEDGE OR EDUCATION

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RESEARCH

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'IMI NA'AUAO
DIRECTED STUDIES IN HAWAIIAN STUDIES
WAIĀKEA HIGH SCHOOL

A. NEEDS ASSESSMENT:

There are students enrolled in Hawaiian Studies or Modern History of Hawai'i who have the interest and ability for further study of the Hawaiian culture in the context of Social Studies. These students are capable of independent research; however their small number makes it impossible for the school to establish a regular class to meet their needs.

Students who demonstrate giftedness and intense interest in the area of Hawaiian Studies need to pursue this interest by more in-depth research, possibly outside of the traditional classroom setting. They also require focused instruction to develop their unique interests in this area.

B. SCHOOL G/T PROGRAM GOALS:

Waiākea High School's G.T program goal is to provide an appropriate education for gifted students in their particular area of giftedness.

C. PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

The primary objective of 'Imi Na'auao: Directed Studies in Hawaiian Studies is to produce students who can use investigative skills and appropriate resources to organize research materials and find an appropriate outlet for a finished product on a Hawaiian topic of interest to them. These students will also be able to share and evaluate their accomplishments with others. This program is especially important for gifted students who may be underachieving in general areas of their education. For some students, the study of the Hawaiian culture is one of their few areas of academic success.

D. TARGET GROUP:

Gifted students who have completed Hawaiian Studies or Modern History of Hawai'i with a B or better grade, and who are interested in and motivated to pursue further research in Hawaiian Studies.

E. IDENTIFICATION/SELECTION PROCESS:

1. Teacher/parent/self nomination: Announcement is made of all G/T class offerings for the upcoming school year so any teacher, student or parent can nominate candidates for the program.

2. Teacher recommendation: The students' Hawaiian Studies or Modern History of Hawai'i teacher completes two Renzulli-Hartman Scales for Rating the Behavioral Characteristics of Superior Students based on their performance in class.
   - I Learning Characteristics
   - II Motivational Characteristics

3. Quarter and Semester grades for Hawaiian Studies or Modern History of Hawai'i.

4. Student self-evaluation based on questions adapted from Nina Buchanon's Nā'imiloa model.

5. Student autobiography with specific informational requirements.

6. The College Board SAT Verbal Score. (Optional because many of the Hawaiian Studies and Modern History of Hawai'i students do not take this test).

7. There are rubrics and scales for assessment of the Student Self Nomination and the Autobiography rating sheet. The Student Self-Assessment forms are scored by a teacher who does not know the nominees.

8. All of the above information is assessed and scored using the Baldwin Identification Matrix (BIM). Students scoring in the top 80% on the matrix are rated as Gifted. Students in the 60-79% range are rated as Potentially Gifted.

9. A Selection Committee comprised of two Social Studies teachers and an administrator discusses the scores of each student and determines final acceptance into the program.

F. INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY PLAN 1993-1994:

The G/T teacher is to provide the basic structure for the target students who will identify their project focus and use appropriate resources to gather information on topic(s) in Hawaiian Studies. The teacher provides:

-Syllabus with expectations and grading policy
-Suggested topics of study
-Necessary school forms for independent off-campus research
-Procedural Outline
-Guidelines for final product

There are several important components of this course:

-The students are encouraged to use mentors and other resources in addition to the usual primary and secondary "book" sources in order to make their products unique to their interests.
-The form the products take is a very important consideration. Research papers are not the only product form that is encouraged.
-The students need to organize their time and information very carefully in order to complete their products in the alloted time.
-Another important component of this course is the students' final evaluation of their product. They will evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the product and the process to determine the effect of both on their attitudes and behaviors as well as on their personal and skill development and their use and organization of time.
-Each completed product will be placed in the lending collection of the school library for general use.

Some of the students for 1993-1994 want to survey the topics covered in Hawaiian Studies in 1992-1993 in more depth, so those students may not follow the usual one topic/semester procedure. They want to research a wider variety of topics, so their programs will be planned differently.

This course is an independent study course so the students must be mature enough to work without direct supervision during research.

G. EVALUATION PLAN:

All G/T students are rated on the 22-indicator/4-point "Assessment for Independent Learning" scale. It has been adapted for Directed Studies in Hawaiian Studies from the "Assessment for Independent Learning/ Academically Gifted/Talented Program." The teacher and student fill this scale in together as each step of the independent study process is completed.

H. STUDENT SUCCESSES

Many of the students who have completed Directed Studies in Hawaiian Studies have found that their greatest success has been in their growth in independence, responsibility, and perseverence. Their product is proof of this growth. Most didn't realize how difficult it would be to keep to the timetable and follow the procedural outline.

'Imi Na'auao: Directed Studies in Hawaiian Studies at Waiākea High School is meeting the needs of and providing an appropriate education for those students who are gifted and interested in Hawaiian Studies. More importantly, it provides them an invaluable education in specific areas of the Hawaiian culture and values.

For further information please contact:

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'IMI NA'AUAO: DIRECTED STUDIES IN HAWAIIAN STUDIES
APPLICATION PACKET

Dear Parent/Teacher/Student:

The 'Imi Na'auao: Directed Studies in Hawaiian Studies Program at Waiākea High School is now accepting applications for the _____ school year.

'Imi Na'auao: Directed Studies in Hawaiian Studies consists of one semester (may be repeated) of independent research on a topic in Hawaiian Studies. Any student who has done exceptionally well in Hawaiian Studies or Modern History of Hawai'i and would like to continue their investigation into some aspect of Hawaiian culture or history is invited to apply for this course. The student must demonstrate evidence of high motivation and sustained interest in creating a substantial product by the end of the semester of work.
The student must complete this application packet and return to Mrs. De Morales in C101 by _____. This packet consists of:

1. Nomination form: to be filled out by your parent/guardian/your Hawaiian Studies or Modern History of Hawai'i teacher, or yourself.
2. Autobiography: Give special attention to writing about your interest in Hawaiian Studies.
3. Renzulli-Hartman Rating Scales #1 and #2 to be filled out by a teacher who knows your capabilities as a student.

ACCEPTANCE INTO THIS PROGRAM IS BASED ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

1. Quarter and semester grades from Hawaiian Studies or Modern History of Hawai'i class.
2. Behavioral scores in Learning Characteristics and Motivational Characteristics.
3. Score on Nomination by a teacher, your parent/guardian, or yourself.
4. Score on Autobiography.
5. Score on Student Self-Assessment.
6. SAT Verbal score (if available) is optional.

REMINDER: You must return these completed forms by _____ in order to be considered for selection.

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'IMI NA'AUAO: DIRECTED STUDIES IN HAWAIIAN STUDIES
NOMINATION FORM

FILL OUT AND SUBMIT BY: _____

NAME OF STUDENT: _____ DATE: _____

FILLED OUT BY: _____
(Note if Parent/Teacher/Student)

DIRECTIONS: Rate this student according to your experience with him/her.

5=Exceptional 4=Above Average 3=Average 2=Somwhat 1=Not at all

1. Has knowledge of and interest in Hawaiian history and culture. ____
2. Uses a large vocabulary. ____
3. Reads books, attends activities, etc on Hawaiian history/culture. ____
4. Solves problems requiring complex thought processes. ____
5. Has knowledge of and interest in a variety of things. ____
6. Asks probing questions about Hawaiian history/culture. ____
7. Uses good and sometimes unusual methods of work. ____
8. Is observant, alert, responds readily. ____
9. Is capable of working consistently and independently. ____

TOTAL SCORE ____

TOTAL POSSIBLE SCORE 45

'IMI NA'AUAO: DIRECTED STUDIES IN HAWAIIAN STUDIES
AUTOBIOGRAPHY

DIRECTIONS: Using the front and back of this sheet, write about yourself. Give specific attention to writing about your interest in Hawaiian Studies. Be sure to include the following information:

1. BASIC INFORMATION: All about you as a person.
2. PROGRAM QUALIFICATIONS: Why you should be selected for the program.
3. PROGRAM GAINS: What you expect to gain from the program.
4. PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS: What you hope to do/accomplish.
5. HAWAIIAN STUDIES BACKGROUND: Previous courses, past experiences, memberships in organizations, etc.
6. OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION: Anything about your talents, interests in Hawaiian Studies, etc.